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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/905,006	07/13/2001	Jeffrey D. Frank	M-11679 US	2520

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, LUONG TRUNG

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2612

DATE MAILED: 06/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/905,006

Applicant(s)

FRANK ET AL.

Examiner

LUONG T. NGUYEN

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02/02/05.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 18 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 7, 10, 13-17 and 19-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6, 8, 9, 11 and 12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed on 2/2/05 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 19-23 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 19 (lines 6-7) is amended with newly added limitation "a camcorder adapted to capture video images in the visible electromagnetic spectrum," and newly added limitation "the camcorder selectively records the video images in the visible or non-visible electromagnetic spectrum" on lines 9-11; while claim 19 (lines 1-3) recites "a system for recording video images in a set of wavelength other than visible light wavelengths," this means that the system records video images in non-visible electromagnetic spectrum, and the system do not record video images in the visible electromagnetic spectrum. Therefore, the newly added limitations in claim 19 cause confusion.

Claims 20-23 are objected as being dependent on claim 19.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-3, 10, 13-14, 17, 19-20, 24, 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shinpo (JP 06-301096) in view of Means (US 5,589,901) further in view of Tsuruta et al. (US 5,717,460).

Regarding claim 1, Shinpo discloses an interface device for connecting a camera to a camcorder (camera 2 connects to camcorder 1, figure 1), the camera having a connector (figure 1), comprising a mechanical interconnect (elements 3a-3d, figure 1) coupled to the camera and to the camcorder, whereby a portable video imaging system is formed (figure 1).

Shinpo fails to specifically disclose a camera that captures video images in the non-visible electromagnetic spectrum. However, Means teaches an infrared camera is used for detecting persons in the dark (column 2, lines 1-19, column 5, lines 55-60). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Shinpo by the teaching of Means in order to capture persons or scenes in the dark or when they are not readily visible (column 2, lines 5-15).

Shinpo and Means fail to specifically disclose a mechanical interconnect adapted to provide power to the camera via the hot shoe. However, Tsuruta et al. teaches lighting apparatus 121 is connected to video camera 122 by a hot shoe socket 123 into which a conductive tab on the lighting apparatus is plugged (figure 12, column 3, lines 38-44). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Shinpo and Means by the teaching of Tsuruta et al. in order to connect video camera with another device without using cable.

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Regarding claim 2, Shinpo discloses a base plate (3a, figure 1); a mount (3d, figure 1).

Regarding claim 3, Shinpo discloses said baseplate comprises a bottom surface (3a, figure 1); an upper plate (3c, figure 1) connected to and spaced apart from said bottom surface of said baseplate.

Regarding claim 10, Shinpo discloses said baseplate comprises a bottom surface (3a, figure 1); a plurality of posts extending upward from said bottom surface (two vertical “posts” 3b upward from bottom surface 3a, figure 1).

Regarding claim 13, Tsuruta et al. discloses disclose a power connection between said mount and the camera (hot shoe socket 123, figure 12, column 3, lines 38-44).

Regarding claim 14, Tsuruta et al. discloses a wire contained entirely within the interface device (power cable 113, figure 11, column 3, lines 35-38).

Regarding claim 17, Shinpo discloses at least a portion of said mechanical interconnect is integral to the camera (figure 1).

Regarding claims 19-20, Shinpo discloses a system, comprising a camera (camera 2, figure 1); a camcorder adapted to capture video images in the visible electromagnetic spectrum (camcorder 1, figure 1); an interface device (3a-3d, figure 1) that mechanically connects said camera to said camcorder.

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Shinpo fails to specifically disclose a system for recording video images in a set of wavelengths other than visible light wavelengths and a camera that captures video images in the non-visible electromagnetic. However, Means teaches an infrared camera is used for detecting persons in the dark (column 2, lines 1-19, column 5, lines 55-60). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in the Shinpo by the teaching of Means in order to capture persons or scenes in the dark or when they are not readily visible (column 2, lines 5-15).

Shinpo and Means fail to specifically disclose an interface device that electrically connects said camera to said camcorder such that the camcorder selectively records the video images in the visible or non-visible electromagnetic spectrum. However, Tsuruta et al. teaches lighting apparatus 121 is connected to video camera 122 by a hot shoe socket 123 into which a conductive tab on the lighting apparatus is plugged (figure 12, column 3, lines 38-44). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Shinpo and Means by the teaching of Tsuruta et al. in order to connect video camera with another device without using cable.

Regarding claim 24, all the limitations are contained in claim 19. Therefore, see Examiner's comments regarding claim 19.

Regarding claim 27, Shinpo, Means and Tsuruta do not disclose wherein said mechanically securing is performed with a plurality of fasteners. However, Shinpo disclose the plate 3a is disposed on the top portion of element 3d. It would have been obvious to use plurality

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of fasteners to fasten the plate 3a to element 3d. This makes camera 2 stays firmly on video camera 1.

5. Claims 7, 15-16, 21-23, 25-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shinpo (JP 06-301096) in view of Means (US 5,589,901) and Tsuruta et al. (US 5,717,460) further in view of Zhang et al. (US 6,864,911).

Regarding claims 7, 15-16, 21-23, 25-26, Shinpo, Means and Tsuruta et al. fail to specifically disclose a video cable or a control cable or power cable. However, Zhang et al. teaches the using communication protocol such as USB protocol, IEEE 1394 protocol to connect two digital cameras. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the device in Shinpo, Means and Tsuruta et al. by the teaching of Zhang et al. in order to transmit data between two digital cameras.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claim 18 is allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 18, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest an interface device for connecting a camera that captures video images in the non-visible electromagnetic spectrum to a camcorder, the camcorder having a hot shoe, the camera having a connector, comprising a mount comprising a hot shoe mount connectable to the hot shoe; a baseplate secured to said mount, said baseplate comprising a bottom surface, an outer wall, and an aperture in said outer wall; an upper plate connected to and spaced apart from said bottom surface of said

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baseplate, said upper plate comprising a rear flange extending therefrom, said rear flange comprising a cutout therethrough, wherein said camera is secured to said upper plate; a first connector attached to said rear flange, said first connector connectable to the connector on the camera.

7. Claims 4-6, 8-9, 11-12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

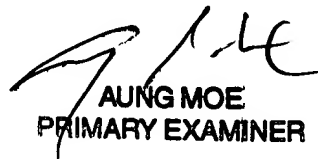
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9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LUONG T NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272 - 7315. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on (571) 272 - 7308. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LN LN
06/09/05


AUNG MOE
PRIMARY EXAMINER